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INFO RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0743
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH AFB UK
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
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DOE FOR GPERSON, CGAY
TREASURY FOR ASEVERENS, SRENENDER, DFIELDS
COMMERCE FOR KBURRESS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/06/2016

TAGS: [EPET](#) [PGOV](#) [ASEC](#) [PTER](#) [CASC](#) [NI](#)

SUBJECT: DELTA SITREP 4: HOSTAGES REMAIN CAPTIVE, PROOF OF
LIFE RECEIVED

REF: A. LAGOS 1338

[1](#)B. LAGOS 1339

Classified By: Consul Alan Latimer for Reasons 1.4 (B,D)

[1](#)1. (C) Summary. American citizen James Brazel and Briton Martin Maddieson remain hostages. Digital photographs verifying proof of life were received by Petroleum Geo-Services (PGS), the hostages' employer. We have met daily with Tim Branch, Operations Manager PGS Onshore, other PGS officials, and Victor Boyd, Field Supervisor PGS Onshore; Peter Sharwood, Commercial Manager, Armor Group; and Tony Rogers and David Tampin, Control Risks (CR) (protect). We have also maintained close contact and met with British Deputy High Commission staff. End Summary.

[1](#)2. (C) According to Tony Rogers of CR, Chevron has declined to attend the daily meetings, although Chevron is willing to coordinate with PGS and provide information for the meetings.

The two PGS employees were working seismic studies for Chevron when they were kidnapped. PGS plans to ask Chevron if a helicopter can be provided to transport Dr. Godknows Igali, Secretary of State Government, to the village holding the victims. Igali told the British Deputy High Commission that he would become the government's primary contact with the village. Igali also recommended that PGS channel its communication through him so as to avoid multiple lines of communication that the kidnappers would try to exploit.

DIGITAL PHOTOS GIVE PROOF OF LIFE, MEDICATION DELIVERED

[1](#)3. (C) Proof of life, in the form of digital photographs of both American James Brazel and Briton Martin Maddieson, as well as letters purported from the duo saying they are being well treated and that the community's requests should be met, has been received. Substantiating questions are being prepared in the event contact is made with the hostages. Control Risks advised that persons doing family liaison may wish to alert the families to the existence of the pictures because they could make their way into the media.

[1](#)4. (C) Anti-malarial medication and food has been delivered

and mosquito netting will also be provided to the hostages. Two Thuraya satellite telephones are in the vicinity, but the local rulers do not want them delivered to the hostages. Nonetheless, CRG indicated they would continue to push to have them delivered.

RELEASE TODAY UNLIKELY

15. (C) Several rumors of imminent release have circulated, but not been borne out. According to the PGS community liaison officer Chief Jerry Oduose, everyone with whom he has met said the hostages would be released unconditionally. Despite these assurances, the community is said to be dissatisfied that they have had no response to their demands. According to Tim Branch of PGS, the Deputy Governor did not travel to the village, as previously reported, but turned back to attend a campaign-related function.

16. (C) PGS received a request for "logistical expenses" originally for naira 3 million that increased to naira 10 million. Not only has the amount of the request fluctuated, PGS is having a difficult time ascertaining who is really in control among those in the local community claiming to hold the hostages. PGS has information suggesting two groups within the community holding the hostages are vying for control. The tussle will complicate the negotiation for release. Thus far, however, there is no sign that the differences between the factions in the community have had any bearing on the treatment of the hostages.
BROWNE